

Submitter: Natalia Litvinka

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding the impact of the ODOT budget on Support Services personnel.

I serve as an Information Systems Specialist, contributing to the replacement of Oregon's outdated crash data system. This system is critical — it supports daily reporting of fatal crashes to the federal government and serves as the foundation for traffic safety programs at the state and national levels.

This is not simply a technical task. It requires an in-depth understanding of ODOT's operations, business processes, regulatory environment, and data quality standards. My work includes gathering requirements, analyzing existing systems, aligning with federal and DMV data standards, and ensuring that the data ODOT provides is accurate, consistent, and usable for planning and engineering.

There's a common misconception that a strictly technical person can step in and replicate this work quickly. But when working with transportation data, understanding business rules, legal constraints, and safety implications is essential. One data error can lead to wasted time and resources across multiple divisions. That's why the institutional knowledge carried by ISB staff is so valuable — and so difficult to replace.

Specialists like myself bridge the gap between technical development and business strategy. While a layoff may appear to save money, it risks erasing years of expertise that directly support ODOT's mission and performance.

I respectfully urge you to protect the staffing and funding needed to sustain Support Services. Our work is critical to the delivery of safe, effective, and accountable transportation systems across Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Natalia Litvinka
Information Systems Specialist
ODOT – Support Services